



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Fourth Priority CIAP Project Nomination

Project Title:

The Rigolets Shoreline Protection and Marsh Creation - Grand Coin Pocket

Entity/Individual nominating the project:

City of New Orleans Mayor's Office of Environmental Affairs

Contact Information:

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Project Summary

Location - The project is located in the Pontchartrain Basin, between the west bank of the Rigolets and the northern shore of Lake St. Catherine.

Duration – Four Years

Total Estimated Cost - \$7,400,000.

Funding Requested by Year: 2008

The goals and objectives are: Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetlands.

Total CIAP Funds Requested:

Estimated construction cost is \$7,400,000.

Infrastructure Funds Proposed:

No infrastructure funds proposed.

Description and Location of Project:

This project requires approximately 8,000 lineal feet of shoreline protection and approximately 100 acres of marsh creation and restoration along the west bank of Rigolets pass. The project is located in the Pontchartrain Basin, in eastern Orleans Parish between the west bank of the Rigolets and the northern shore of Lake St. Catherine.

Project Type:

Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetlands

Project Justification:

High wave energy, sea level rise and subsidence levels are impacting the wetland shorelines of Lake Pontchartrain, Chef Pass, the Rigolets and Lake St. Catherine shorelines exhibited by



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increasingly high erosion rates dating since the 1980s. Identified in both *Coast 2050* and the LCA, this critical area, defined as a land bridge forms a marsh barrier between Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Borgne, a bay of the Gulf of Mexico. The land bridge functions as a natural barrier that dampens substantial storm surge during hurricanes and reduces the flow of water into Lake Pontchartrain. Grand Coin Pocket, once a small pond, is a section of brackish marsh that separates Lake St. Catherine from the Rigolets. The deep and fast moving Rigolets pass is eroding the northern side of Grand Coin Pocket, while tidal influences within Lake St. Catherine affect the southern side. Without this marsh, the Rigolets will become part of Lake St. Catherine, further increasing tidal and wave impacts on wetland habitat, New Orleans communities and a hurricane evacuation route, U.S. Highway 90.

Project Cost Share:

To be determined by funding provided through CIAP